

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

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| UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL | |
| (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)) | |

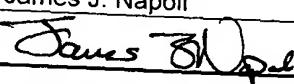
| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Attorney Docket No. | 29827/39446 |
| First Inventor | Michael A. Mitchell |
| Title | CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURING OF SUPERABSORBENT/ION EXCHANGE SHEET MATERIAL |
| Express Mail Label No. | EV323773134US |

| | |
|--|--|
| APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents. | |
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) <i>(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)</i> | |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. <i>See 37 CFR 1.27.</i> | |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <i>(preferred arrangement set forth below)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Descriptive title of the invention - Cross Reference to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure | |
| 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 26] | |
| 5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets 3] | |
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) | |
| b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) <i>(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)</i> | |
| i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) <i>Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</i> | |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76 | |
| 18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76: <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Divisional <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 09/179,553 | |

| | |
|---|--|
| ADDRESS TO: | |
| MS Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix) | |
| 8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission <i>(if applicable, all necessary)</i> | |
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF) | |
| b. Specification Sequence Listing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper | |
| c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies | |

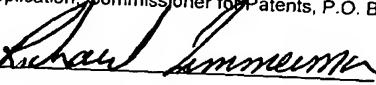
| | |
|---|--|
| ACCOMPANYING APPLICATIONS PARTS | |
| 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) | |
| 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement <i>(when there is an assignee)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney | |
| 11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable) | |
| 12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations | |
| 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment | |
| 14. <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) <i>(Should be specifically itemized)</i> | |
| 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <i>(if foreign priority is claimed)</i> | |
| 16. <input type="checkbox"/> Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). <i>Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.</i> | |
| 17. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------|
| 19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label | | 04743 | | or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below | |
| Name | MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP James J. Napoli | | | | |
| Address | 233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300 Sears Tower | | | | |
| City | Chicago | State | IL | Zip Code | 60606-6357 |
| Country | US | Telephone | (312) 474-6300 | Fax | (312) 474-0448 |
| Name (Print/Type) | James J. Napoli | | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 32,361 | |
| Signature |  | | Date | July 15, 2003 | |

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV323773134US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 15, 2003

Signature:  (Richard Zimmermann)

17058 U.S.P.T.O.
10/6/1984
07/15/03

15866 U.S. PTO
07/15/03

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Effective 01/01/2003, Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT **(\\$)** 1,200.00

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Application Number | Not Yet Assigned |
| Filing Date | Concurrently Herewith |
| First Named Inventor | Michael A. Mitchell |
| Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Art Unit | N/A |
| Attorney Docket No. | 29827/39446 |

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

Check Credit Card Money Order Other None
 Deposit Account

Deposit Account Number 13-2855

Deposit Account Name MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

The Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

- Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

| Fee Code | Fee (\$) | Fee Code | Fee (\$) | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|----------|
| 1051 | 130 | 2051 | 65 | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath | |
| 1052 | 50 | 2052 | 25 | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet. | |
| 1053 | 130 | 1053 | 130 | Non-English specification | |
| 1812 | 2,520 | 1812 | 2,520 | For filing a request for ex parte reexamination | |
| 1804 | 920* | 1804 | 920* | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action | |
| 1805 | 1,840* | 1805 | 1,840* | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action | |
| 1251 | 110 | 2251 | 55 | Extension for reply within first month | |
| 1252 | 410 | 2252 | 205 | Extension for reply within second month | |
| 1253 | 930 | 2253 | 465 | Extension for reply within third month | |
| 1254 | 1,450 | 2254 | 725 | Extension for reply within fourth month | |
| 1255 | 1,970 | 2255 | 985 | Extension for reply within fifth month | |
| 1401 | 320 | 2401 | 160 | Notice of Appeal | |
| 1402 | 320 | 2402 | 160 | Filing a brief in support of an appeal | |
| 1403 | 280 | 2403 | 140 | Request for oral hearing | |
| 1451 | 1,510 | 1451 | 1,510 | Petition to institute a public use proceeding | |
| 1452 | 110 | 2452 | 55 | Petition to revive - unavoidable | |
| 1453 | 1,300 | 2453 | 650 | Petition to revive - unintentional | |
| 1501 | 1,300 | 2501 | 650 | Utility Issue fee (or reissue) | |
| 1502 | 470 | 2502 | 235 | Design issue fee | |
| 1503 | 630 | 2503 | 315 | Plant issue fee | |
| 1460 | 130 | 1460 | 130 | Petitions to the Commissioner | |
| 1807 | 50 | 1807 | 50 | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) | |
| 1806 | 180 | 1806 | 180 | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt | |
| 8021 | 40 | 8021 | 40 | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | |
| 1809 | 750 | 2809 | 375 | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) | |
| 1810 | 750 | 2810 | 375 | For each additional invention to be examined (37CFR 1.129(b)) | |
| 1801 | 750 | 2801 | 375 | Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | |
| 1802 | 900 | 1802 | 900 | Request for expedited examination of a design application | |
| Other fee (specify) | | | | | |

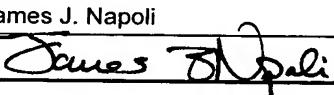
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) **(\\$)** 0.00

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

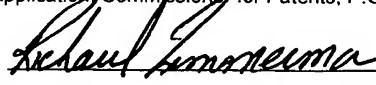
SUBMITTED BY

Complete (if applicable)

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------|-----------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | James J. Napoli | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 32,361 | Telephone | (312) 474-6614 |
| Signature |  | | | Date | July 15, 2003 |

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV323773134US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 15, 2003

Signature:  (Richard Zimmermann)

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 29827/36428

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53

*Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231*

EM578444076US

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): Michael A. Mitchell, Mark Anderson, and Thomas W. Beihoffer

Title: CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURE OF SUPERABSORBENT/ION EXCHANGE SHEET MATERIAL

1. Type of Application

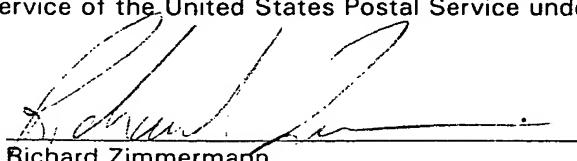
- This is a new application for a
 - utility patent.
 - design patent.
- This is a continuation-in-part application of prior application no. 09/746,177.

2. Application Papers Enclosed

- 1 Title Page
- 131 Pages of Specification (excluding Claims, Abstract, Drawings & Sequence Listing)
- 16 Page(s) of Claims
- 1 Page(s) of Abstract
- 26 Sheet(s) of Drawings (Figs. 1 to 33)
 - Formal
 - Informal
- 0 Page(s) of Sequence Listing

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this Patent Application Transmittal and the documents referred to as enclosed therewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on June 6, 2001, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 utilizing the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service under Mailing Label No. EM578444076US.



Richard Zimmermann

3. Declaration or Oath

- Enclosed
- Executed by (check all applicable boxes)
 - Inventor(s)
 - Legal representative of inventor(s)
(37 CFR 1.42 or 1.43)
 - Joint inventor or person showing a proprietary interest on behalf of inventor who refused to sign or cannot be reached
 - The petition required by 37 CFR 1.47 and the statement required by 37 CFR 1.47 are enclosed. See Item 5D below for fee.
 - Not enclosed - the undersigned attorney or agent is authorized to file this application on behalf of the applicant(s). An executed declaration will follow.

4. Small Entity Status

- Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- A small entity statement is(are) attached.

5. Additional Papers Enclosed

- Preliminary Amendment
- Information Disclosure Statement
- Declaration of Biological Deposit
- Computer readable copy of sequence listing containing nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence
- Microfiche computer program
- Associate Power of Attorney
- Verified translation of a non-English patent application
- An assignment of the invention
- Request and Certification Under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)
- Return receipt postcard
- Other

6. Priority Applications Under 35 USC 119

Certified copies of applications from which priority under 35 USC 119 is claimed are listed below and

- are attached.
- will follow.

| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NO. | FILED |
|---------|-----------------|-------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

7. Filing Fee Calculation (37 CFR 1.16)

A. Utility Application

| CLAIMS AS FILED - INCLUDING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (IF ANY) | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------|----------|---------------------------|------------|
| | | | SMALL ENTITY | | OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY | |
| | NO. FILED | NO. EXTRA | RATE | FEE | RATE | FEE |
| BASIC FEE | | | | \$355.00 | | \$710.00 |
| TOTAL | 78 -20 | = 58 | X 9 = | \$ | X 18 = | \$1,044.00 |
| INDEP. | 6 - 3 | = 3 | X 40 = | \$ | X 80 = | \$240.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim | | | + 135 = | \$ | + 270 = | \$ |
| Filing Fee: | | | | \$ | OR | \$1,994.00 |

B. Design Application (\$160.00/\$320.00) Filing Fee: \$ _____

C. Plant Application (\$245.00/\$490.00) Filing Fee: \$ _____

D. Other Fees

Recording Assignment [Fee -- \$40.00 per assignment] \$ _____

Petition fee for filing by other than all the inventors or person on behalf of the inventor where inventor refused to sign or cannot be reached [Fee -- \$130.00] \$ _____

Other \$ _____

Total Fees Enclosed \$1,994.00

8. Method of Payment of Fees

- Enclosed check in the amount of: \$ 1,994.00
- Charge Deposit Account No. 13-2855 in the amount of: \$ _____
A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed.
- Not enclosed

9. Deposit Account and Refund Authorization

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 CFR 1.16 or 37 CFR 1.17 or under other applicable rules (except payment of issue fees), to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed.

Please refund any overpayment to Marshall, O'Toole, Gerstein, Murray & Borun at the address below.

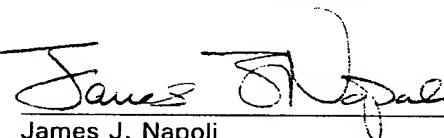
10. Correspondence Address

Customer No.: 04743

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, O'TOOLE, GERSTEIN,
MURRAY & BORUN
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6402
(312) 474-6300
(312) 474-0448 (Telefacsimile)

By:



James J. Napoli
Reg. No. 32,361

June 6, 2001

New Patent Application for: Michael A. Mitchell, Mark Anderson,
and Thomas W. Beihoffer

For: CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURE OF SUPERABSORBENT/ION
EXCHANGE SHEET MATERIAL

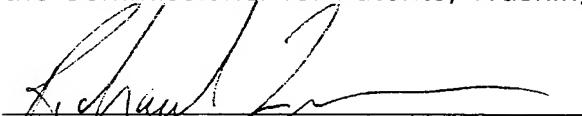
Mailing Certification for: New patent application with executed
Declaration

Attorney Docket No. 29827/36428

"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label No. EM578444076US

Date of Deposit: June 6, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper (or fee) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231.


Richard Zimmermann